



County of Los Angeles  
**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE**

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DAVID E. JANSSEN  
Chief Administrative Officer

May 19, 2004

To: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chair  
Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke  
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky  
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: David E. Janssen  
Chief Administrative Officer

Board of Supervisors  
GLORIA MOLINA  
First District

YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE  
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY  
Third District

DON KNABE  
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH  
Fifth District

**EXTENSION OF AGREEMENT WITH FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY ASSOCIATES (FTA)  
FOR COURT-ORDERED FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY SERVICES**

Under the Lockyer-Isenberg Trial Court Funding Act of 1997, AB 233, the County maintains funding responsibility for the indigent defense program. Indigent defendants are entitled to have defense counsel appointed to represent them in criminal cases and the services of an expert necessary to the preparation of their cases. On May 10, 2003, your Board approved an agreement with FTA to provide court-ordered forensic toxicology services in the County.

The initial term of the agreement is for a 12-month period, commencing on June 12, 2003 and set to expire on June 11, 2004. The agreement includes the provision of four 12-month renewal options that may be exercised by my office.

The Public Defender (PD) Department and the Alternate Public Defender (APD) Department along with the defendants they represent are the recipients of this service. We consulted with staff of PD and APD on the quality of the service and the appropriateness of renewing the agreement. We were advised by both departments that they are satisfied with the performance of FTA and do not have any outstanding issues with the vendor that require corrective action.

Conclusion

With the positive performance record of FTA during the initial term of the agreement, my office believes it is appropriate to exercise the first 12-month renewal to extend the contract through June 11, 2005. This extension will allow the County to fulfill its

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obligation under AB 233 to provide indigent defendants with expert services necessary to prepare for their cases. Funding for this contract is included in the FY 2004-05 Proposed Budget. Therefore, my office will proceed to execute the first one-year extension unless we are advised otherwise by Friday, May 28, 2004.

If you have any questions, please let me know or your staff may contact Eva Snider of my office at (213) 974-2291.

DJ:DL  
ES:TT:ljp

c: Alf Schonbach, Los Angeles Superior Court  
Gordon Trask, County Counsel  
Leslie McMillan, Public Defender Department  
Jordan Yerian, Alternate Public Defender Department

forensic.bm